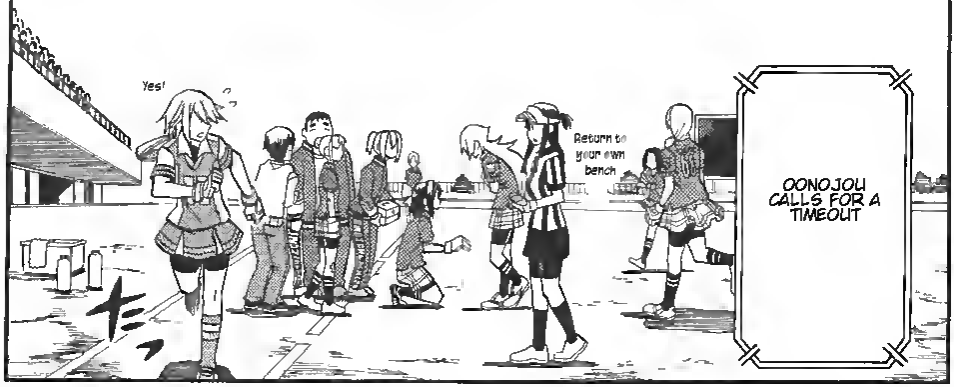
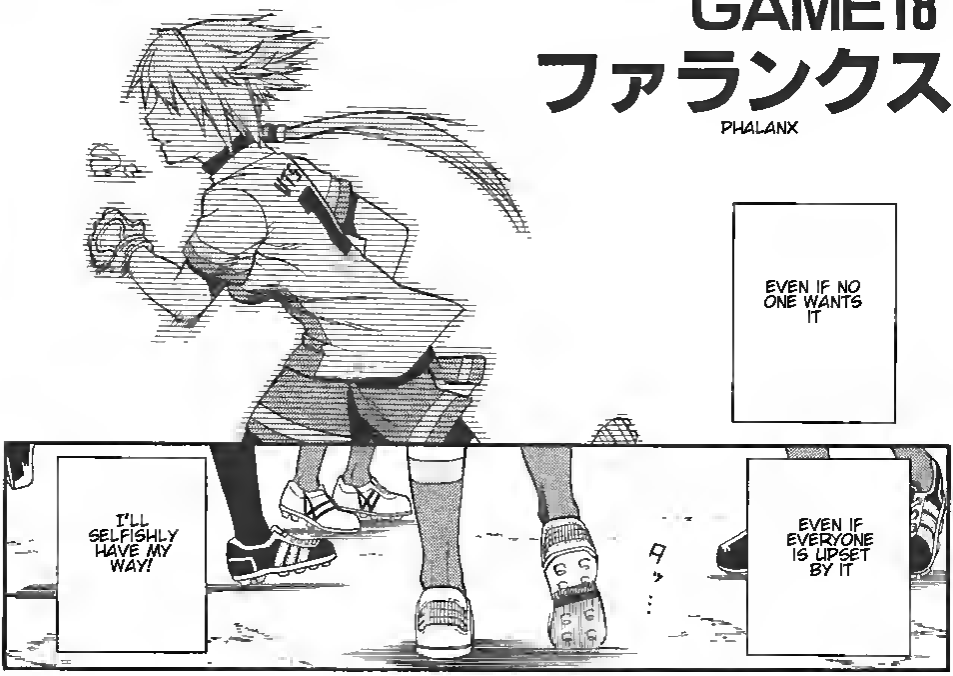
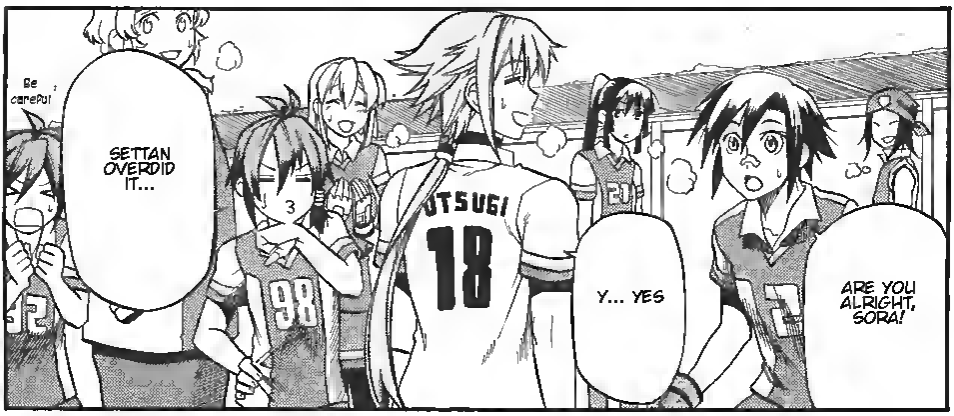
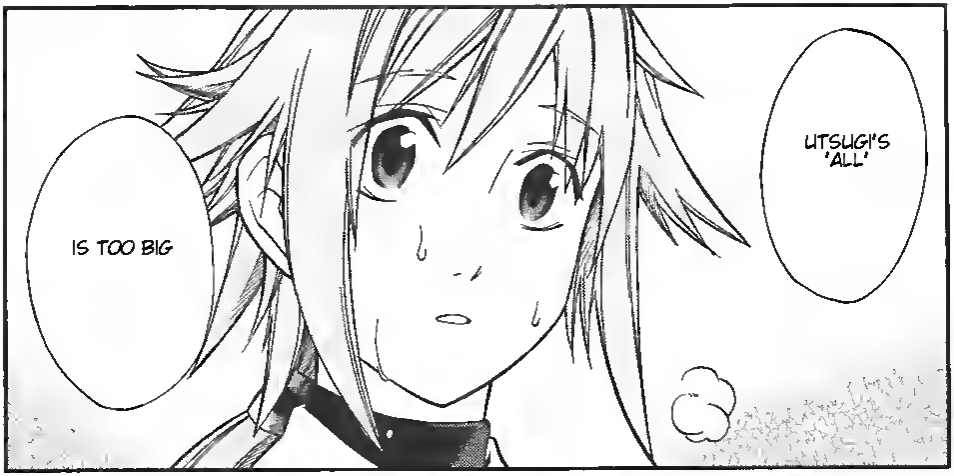


GAME18
ファランクス
PHALANX

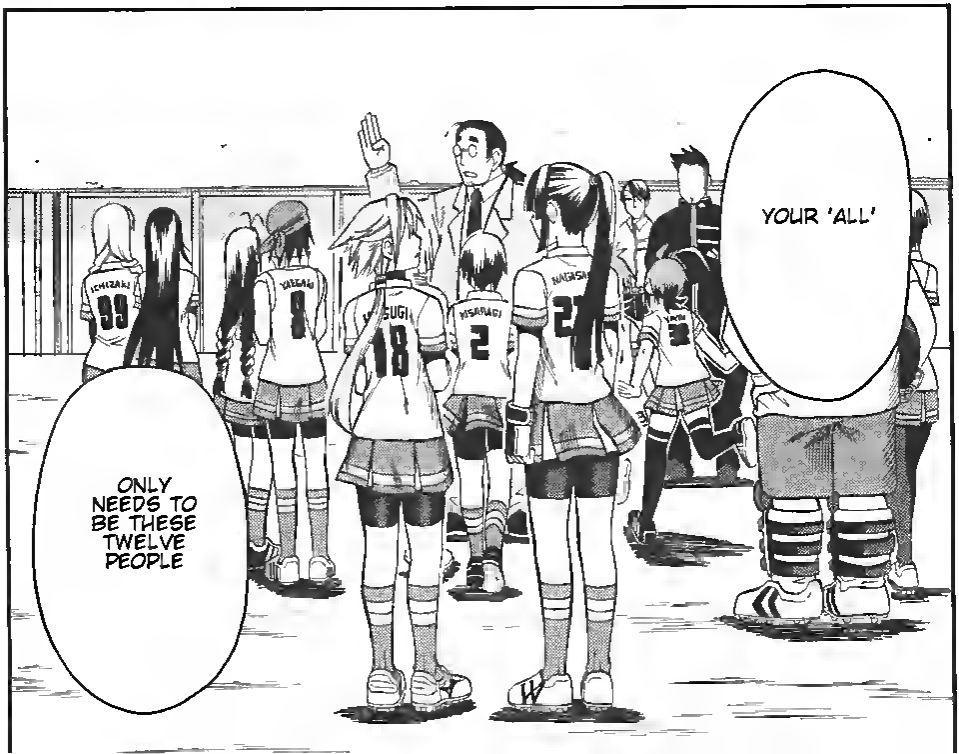


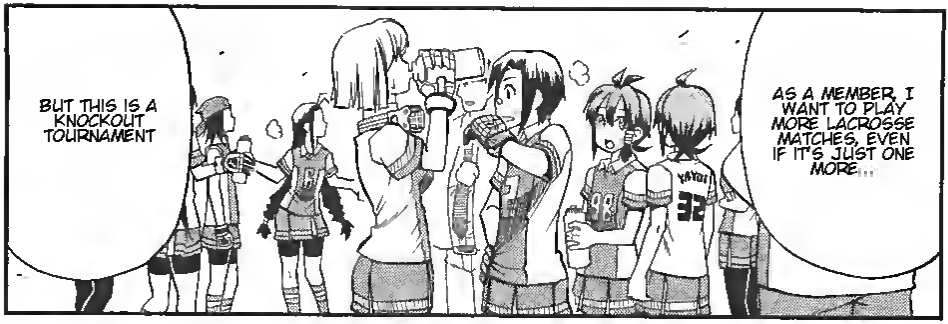


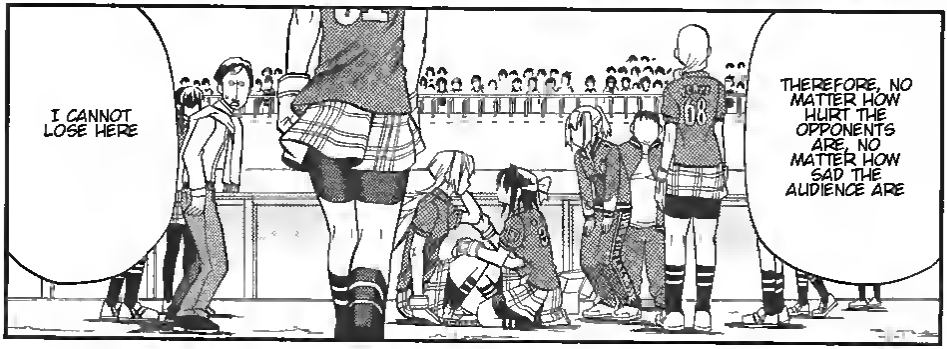
...
I'LL SELFISHLY HAVE MY WAY...
IS THAT... SELFISH?
...
KUUMIN
DOING SOMETHING FOR SOMEONE ELSE... EVEN IF IT UPSETS OTHER PEOPLE...
WA-TER...
AH, THANK YOU
...
ONE FOR ALL
ALL FOR ONE
Nagasako is speaking in English
IT'S A WELL-KNOWN PHRASE IN TEAM SPORTS
ONE PERSON WORKS FOR EVERYONE
AND EVERYONE WORKS FOR ONE PERSON

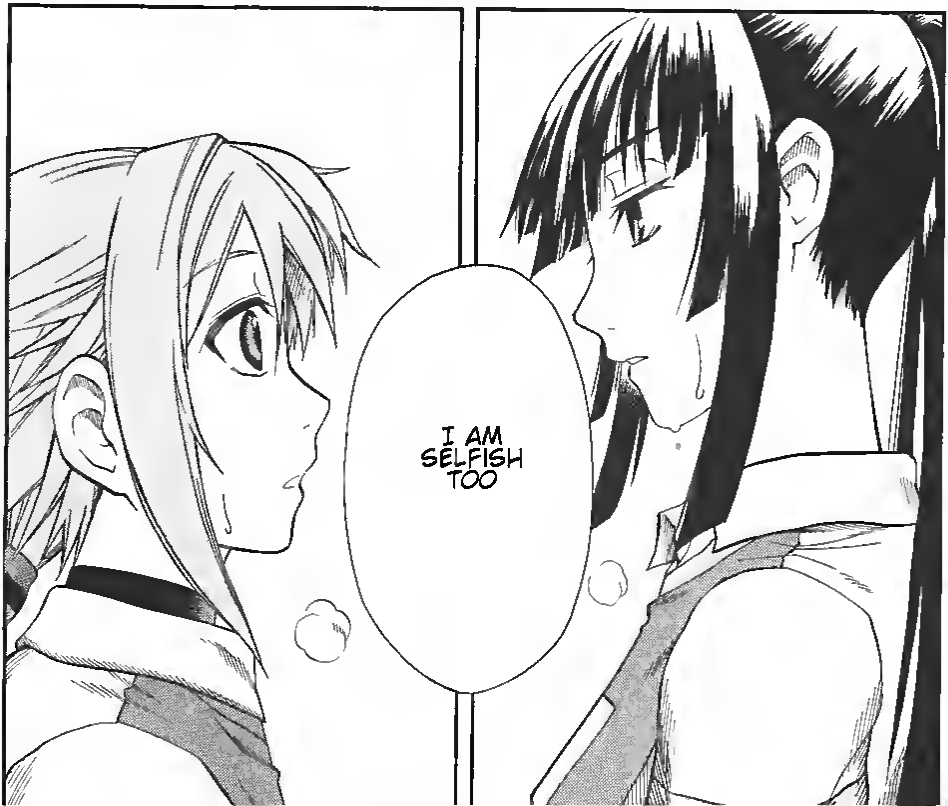

UTSUGI'S 'ALL'
IS TOO BIG

THAT'S...
A LITTLE LONELY

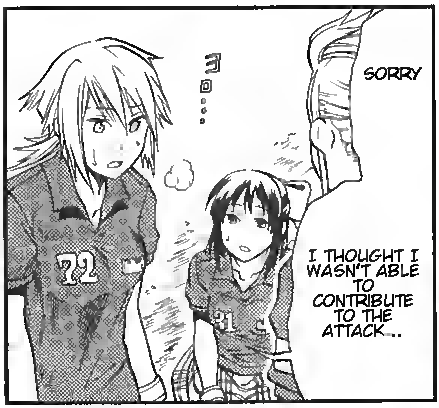

YOUR 'ALL'
ONLY NEEDS TO BE THESE TWELVE PEOPLE

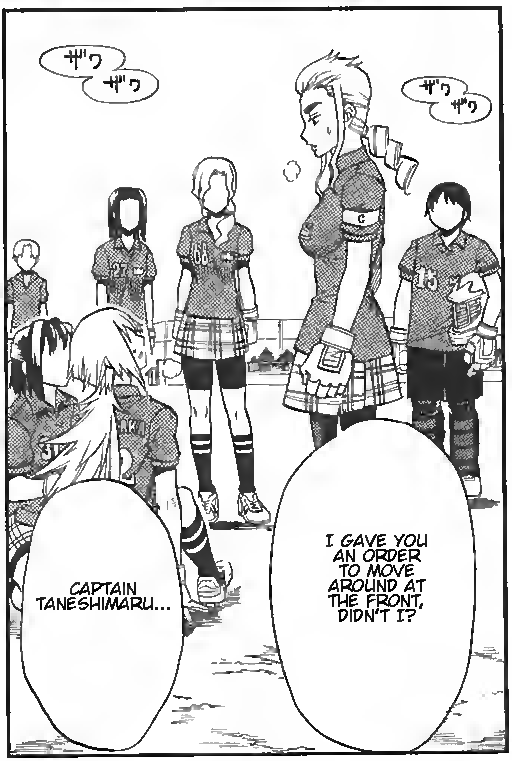

BUT THIS IS A KNOCKOUT TOURNAMENT
AS A MEMBER, I WANT TO PLAY MORE LACROSSE MATCHES, EVEN IF IT'S JUST ONE MORE...


I CANNOT LOSE HERE
THEREFORE, NO MATTER HOW HURT THE OPPONENTS ARE, NO MATTER HOW SAD THE AUDIENCE ARE


I AM SELFISH TOO

はぁ
はぁ
SETAKA!
ザッ


SORRY
I THOUGHT I WASN'T ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ATTACK...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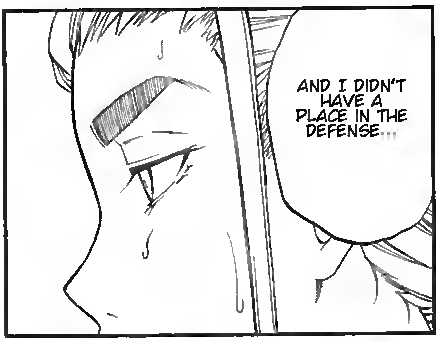
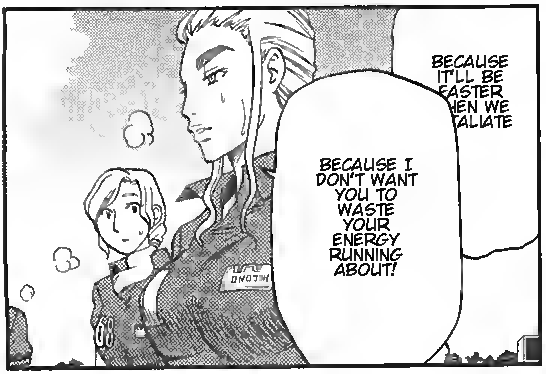
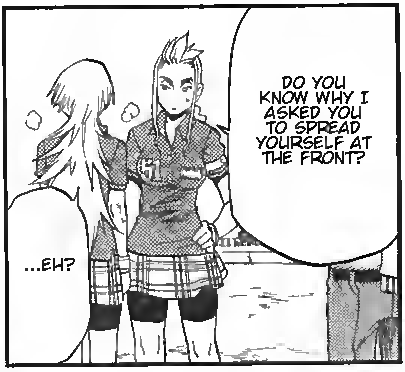
CAPTAIN TANESHIMARU...
I GAVE YOU AN ORDER TO MOVE AROUND AT THE FRONT, DIDN'T I?

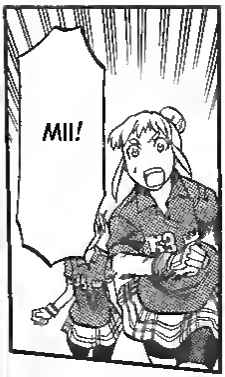

AND I DIDN'T HAVE A PLACE IN THE DEFENSE...

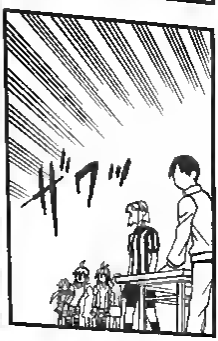

BECAUSE I DON'T WANT YOU TO WASTE YOUR ENERGY RUNNING ABOUT!
BECAUSE IT'LL BE FASTER HEN WE TALIATE


DO YOU KNOW WHY I ASKED YOU TO SPREAD YOURSELF AT THE FRONT?
...EH?

YOU KEEP SAYING YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THE TEAM
BUT IN THE END YOU TWO ONLY LOOK AT EACH OTHER
SORRY...
I'D HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED IT IF THERE WERE RESULTS, BUT THERE WAS NO GUARANTEE...
YOU WERE NOT LOOKING AT OUR TEAM STRATEGY
HOW CAN SOMEONE LIKE THAT
BE PART OF THE TEAM?

EVEN IF SETA-CHAN WAS WRONG
SHE HAS PUT IN HER BEST THE WHOLE TIME, WITHOUT ANY COMPLAINT!
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT!


MII!


ガヤ

IT WASN'T BECAUSE YOU WERE A NUISANCE
THAT WE HAD YOU BENCHED AND SETAKA MOVE AROUND AT THE FRONT

IF YOU WERE REALLY A BOTHER, WE'D HAVE CHASED YOU OUT LONG AGO!

ざわ
ざわ
YOU KEEP SPOUTING BIG WORDS

IF YOU FIND US A BOTHER, THEN IN THE FIRST PLACE WHY-

WE NEED YOUR STRENGTH TO WIN...

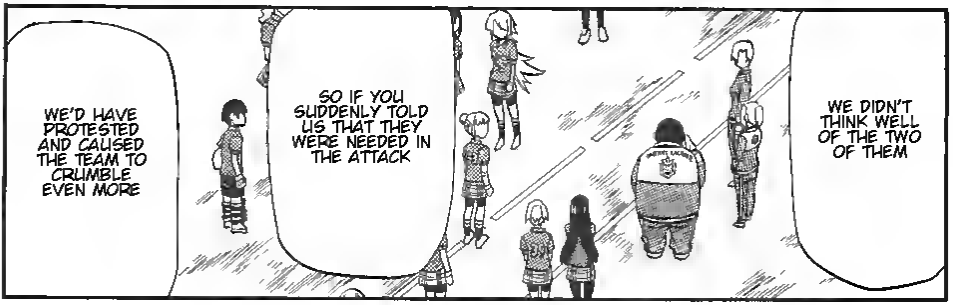
IT PISSES US OFF!
ALL YOU SAY IS "SETA-CHAN" AND "MII"
YOU DON'T EVEN TRY TO UNDERSTAND THE CAPTAIN'S FEELINGS
HIKI-JI...

I SLOWLY CAME TO REALISE IT
BUT WE AREN'T ABLE TO BEAT THAT CHIKUSHI BY OURSELVES
...I DIDN'T WANT TO ADMIT IT

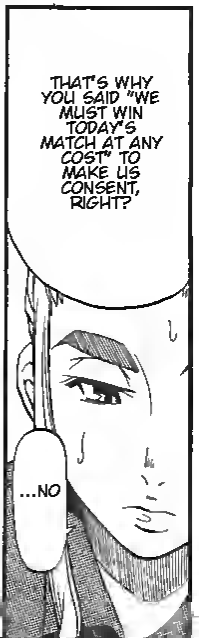
WHO WAS THE CULPRIT WHO PRIORITISED HIS IDOLS OVER THE TEAM'S HARMONY
AND MESSED THE TEAM UP?
...!

I TOLD YOU LONG AGO, DIDN'T I!
THAT THE TWO OF THEM ARE EVEN BETTER
FOR THE TEAM.

CAP-TAIN...
IT WAS HARD FOR YOU TO SAY IT, RIGHT?

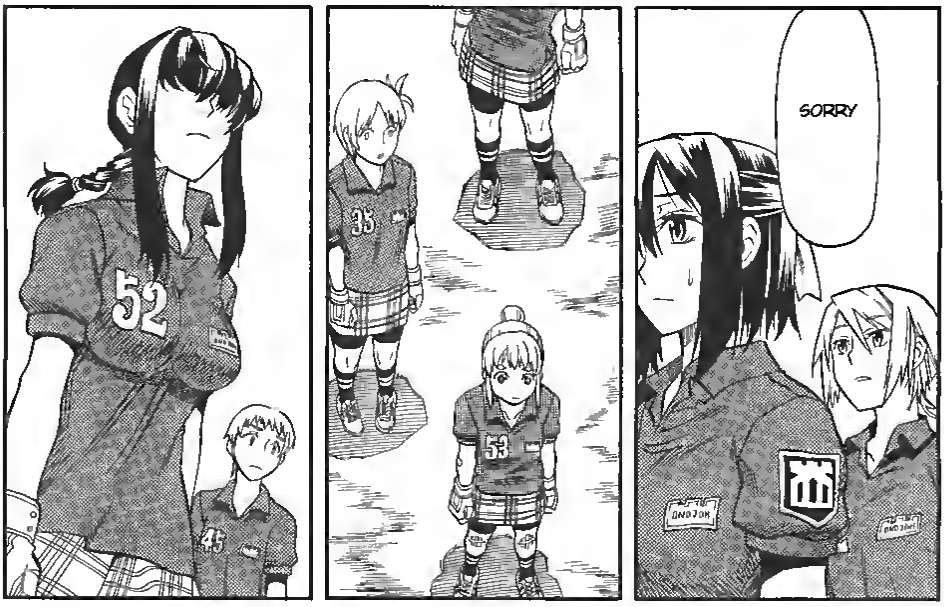

WE'D HAVE PROTESTED AND CAUSED THE TEAM TO CRUMBLE EVEN MORE
SO IF YOU SUDDENLY TOLD US THAT THEY WERE NEEDED IN THE ATTACK
WE DIDN'T THINK WELL OF THE TWO OF THEM

BUT PERHAPS I'M THE ONE MOST AFRAID OF THE DRAMATIC CHANGE
I WAS AFRAID, THAT IN ORDER TO MAKE OUR TEAM STRONGER, WE HAVE TO BREAK IT APART
I SHOULD HAVE JUST TOLD YOU ALL STRAIGHT


THAT'S WHY YOU SAID "WE MUST WIN TODAY'S MATCH AT ANY COST" TO MAKE US CONSENT, RIGHT?
...NO

YOU CAN'T BECOME AS ONE...
IF YOU FEAR SPEAKING YOUR OWN THOUGHTS
IF YOU CONCEAL YOUR TRUE SELF
WE HAVE TO CUT EACH OF YOU AND SHAPE YOU
LIKE MOLDING STONES TO FIT IN A STONE WALL

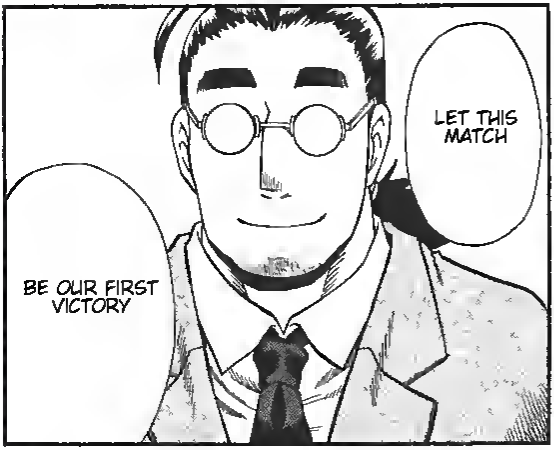
I...
MAY HAVE BEEN THE BIGGEST COWARD


SORRY

BUT...
ONOJOH LACROSSE
YOU ARE... ONE, AREN'T YOU?
AHAHA
WE WERE SO DISORGANISED EVEN DURING THE MATCH
EVEN IF YOU ALL ARE STILL IN PIECES NOW...
THE ONE THING EVERYONE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO
IS THE TEAM'S VICTORY...
AND THEREFORE, YOU ARE ONE!

THEIR OPINIONS ARE CLASHING BECAUSE THEY ARE SERIOUS
OONOJOU WANTS TO WIN AS BADLY AS WE DO

I WONDER IF THEY'RE ALRIGHT...
ARE THEY ARGUING ABOUT SOME-THING?

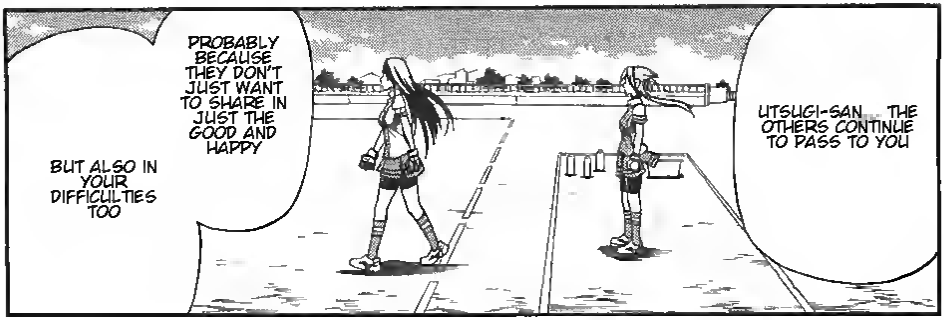

LET THIS MATCH
BE OUR FIRST VICTORY

UNDERSTAND, EVERYONE THAT FROM HERE THE STRENGTH OF YOUR FEELINGS WILL DETERMINE THE OUTCOME OF THE MATCH

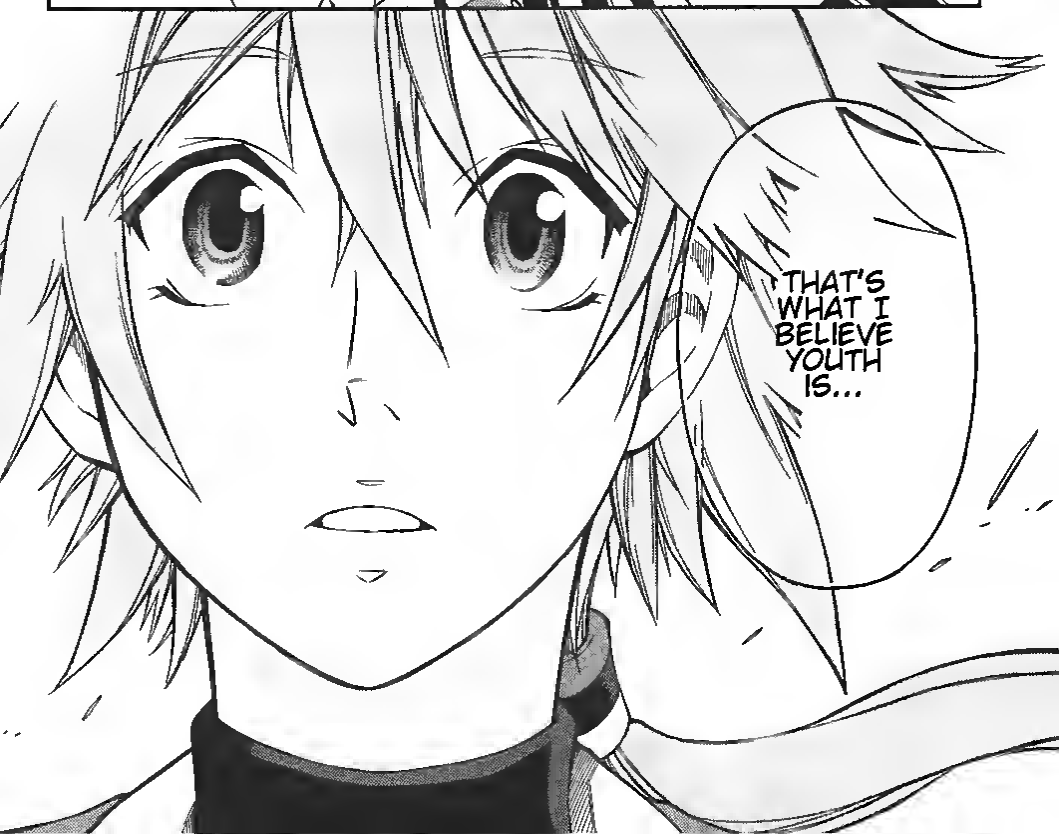
ALRIGHT
EVERYONE GO!

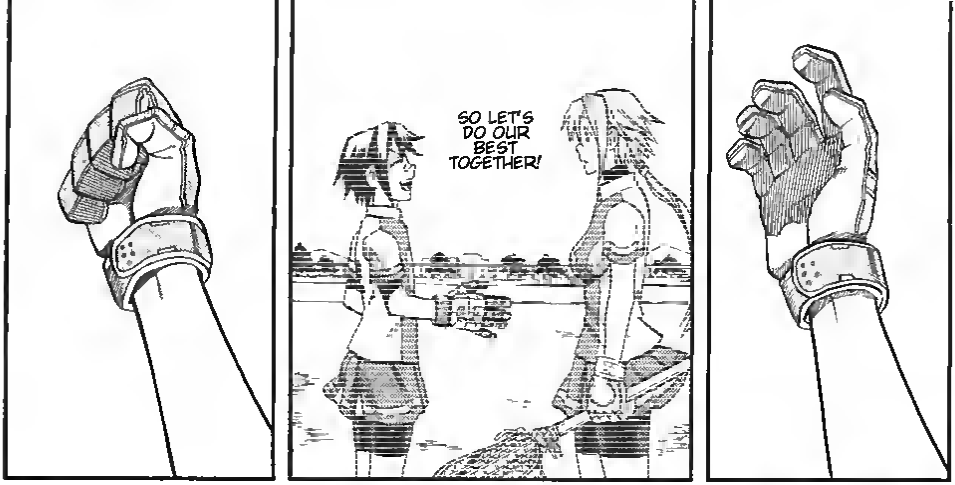
OUR FIRST ...
OF COURSE, DOICCHI!
WE WILL WIN!!

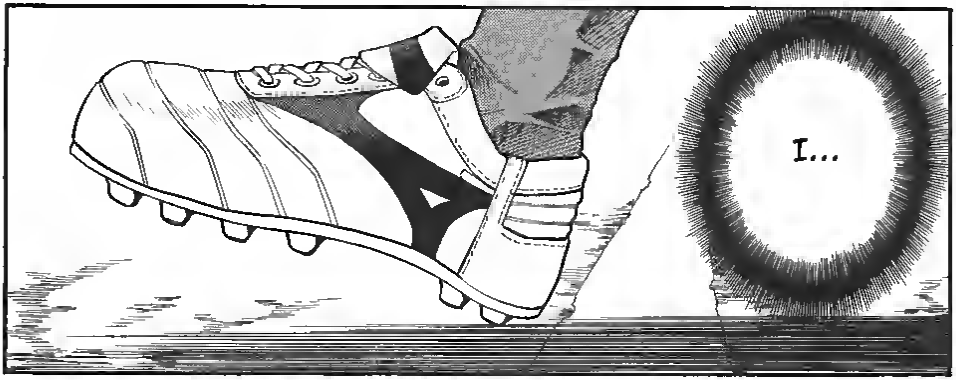
CAPTAIN!
...
THERE WAS A TIME TOO...
WHEN I WAS AFRAID TO STEP BEYOND THIS LINE INTO THE MATCH
IT WAS DIFFI-CULT TO FIGHT
COULDN'T MAKE A GOOD PLAY
I WAS AFRAID THAT IF IT CONTINUED I'LL GROW TO HATE LACROSSE
STILL I DIDN'T QUIT LACROSSE
THERE WERE COMRADES WHO ALWAYS PASSED THE BALL TO ME


UTSUGI-SAN... THE OTHERS CONTINUE TO PASS TO YOU
PROBABLY BECAUSE THEY DON'T JUST WANT TO SHARE IN JUST THE GOOD AND HAPPY
BUT ALSO IN YOUR DIFFICULTIES TOO

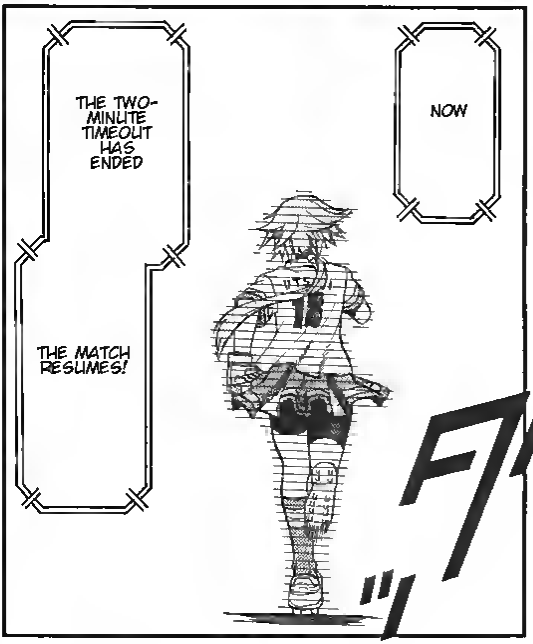
WHEN THERE'S RAIN, WE'LL GET WET TOGETHER
WHEN THERE'S A STORM, WE'LL FIGHT IT TOGETHER


THAT'S WHAT I BELIEVE YOUTH IS...


SO LET'S DO OUR BEST TOGETHER!


I...

Counting on you Zen-senpai!
Leave it to me!
AND
OONOJOU NUMBER 53, ZENDOUJI

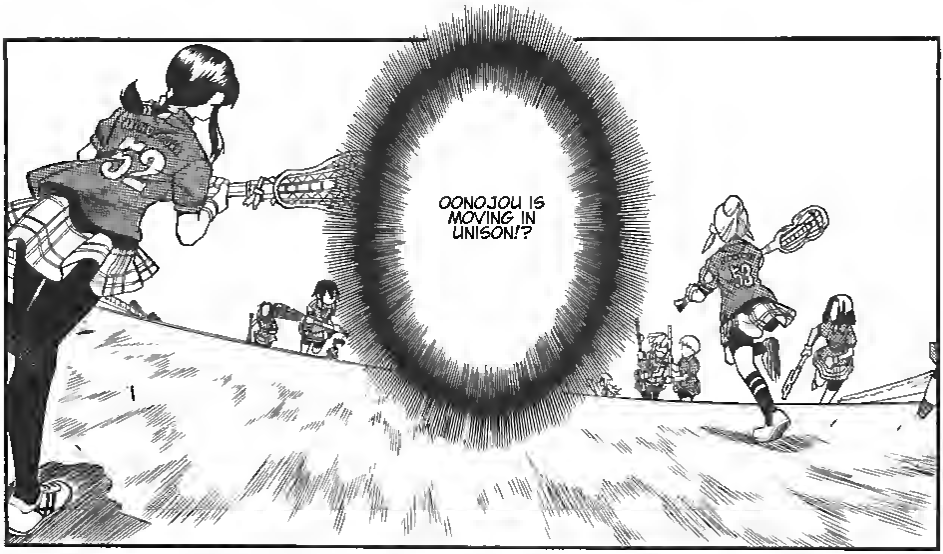

THE TWO-MINUTE TIMEOUT HAS ENDED
THE MATCH RESUMES!
NOW
18

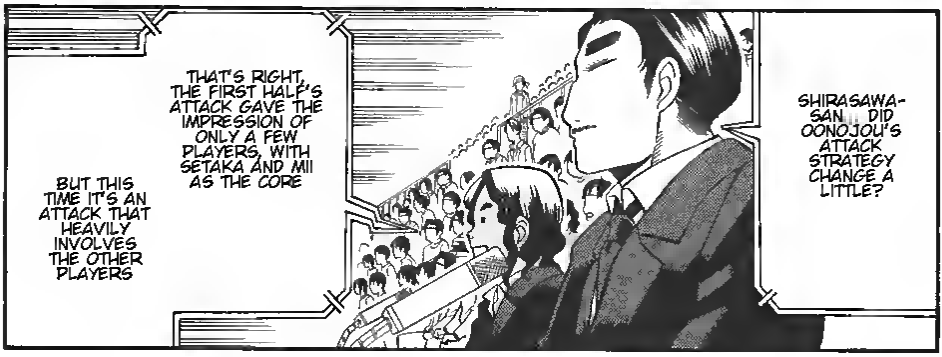
AND NUMBER 31 MII HAS RETURNED TO THE FIELD!!
HER IMAGE'S KIND OF SPOILED
I DON'T LIKE IT
CAN'T SHE JUST NOT PLAY LACROSSE?
OKA-SENPAI?
I'M SORRY, FOR CAUSING YOUR TEAM TO COLLAPSE
BUT PLEASE DON'T HATE THE TWO OF THEM
MII HAS BEEN ALONE SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL
SO SHE DOESN'T REALLY OPEN UP TO OTHERS
AND SETA DEFINITELY KNOWS THAT

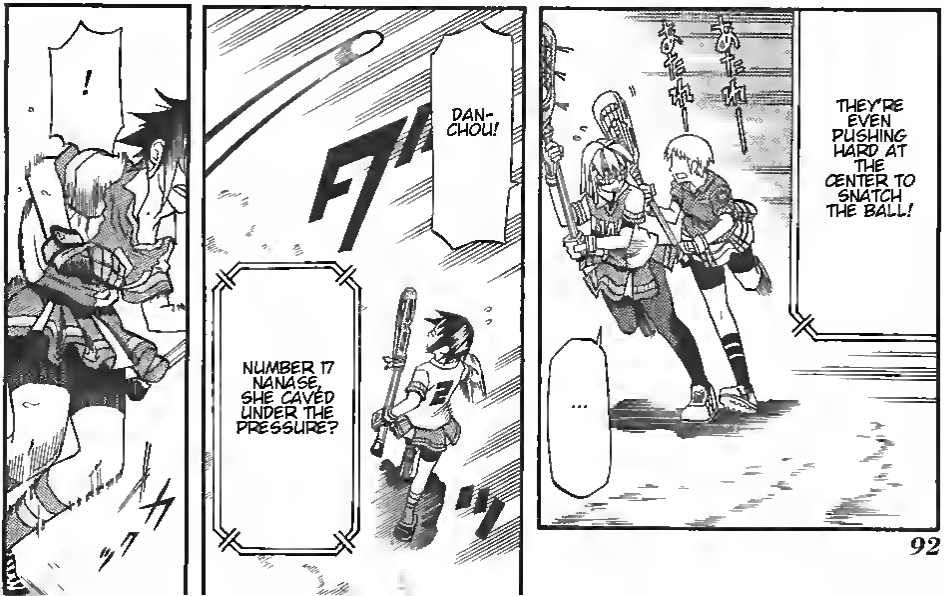
AND THE RESULT IS THIS
BUT FEW WHO DELVE INTO THE FIELD OF LACROSSE
THERE ARE MANY IDOLS IN BOTH THE MINORS AND MAJORS
BRING THE TWO OF THEM TO THE TOP IDOL LEAGUES, IN THIS PLACE...
I WANTED TO, WITH MY HANDS
THEY'VE LOST THEIR PLACE AS BOTH IDOLS AND TEAMMATES...
DIDN'T YOU NOTICE?
...YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND

CON-
CENTRATE
ON THE
ATTACK!
GET YOURSELF
TO THE FRONT
AND DO YOUR
JOB!
!
CHIKUSHI'S
DEFENCE IS
WAITING FOR
HER!
OONOJOU
NUMBER 64
AMASE! SHE'S
RESOLUTELY
TRYING TO
BREAK THE
CENTER...
AMASE-
SENPAI!

YOU MOVED UP TOO FAST! FOLLOW ME!
S-SORRY!
AAH, THE PASS TIMING DIDN'T MATCH!?
THE LOOSE BALL GOES TO CHIKUSHI!
THESE PEOPLE...
Y-yes!
YOU CAN'T DO IT ALONE, YOU MUST MATCH YOUR PACE WITH YOUR PARTNER
I WANT TO WIN!
I WANT TO WIN
はぁっ
はぁっ
I'M NOT GOING TO LOSE LIKE THIS!
...
ざわ ざわ
ざわ ざわ
...SOME-THING'S STIRRING?

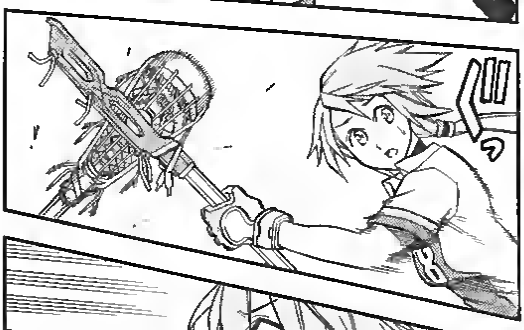

OONOJOU IS MOVING IN UNISON!?

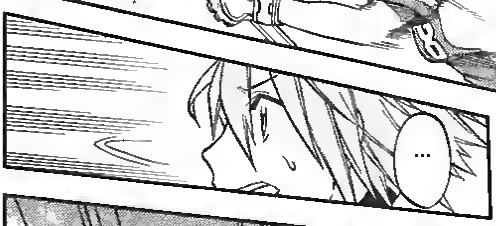

SHIRASAWA-SAN, DID OONOJOU'S ATTACK STRATEGY CHANGE A LITTLE?
THAT'S RIGHT. THE FIRST HALF'S ATTACK GAVE THE IMPRESSION OF ONLY A FEW PLAYERS, WITH SETAKA AND MII AS THE CORE
BUT THIS TIME IT'S AN ATTACK THAT HEAVILY INVOLVES THE OTHER PLAYERS


THEY'RE EVEN PUSHING HARD AT THE CENTER TO SNATCH THE BALL!
...
DAN-CHOU!
NUMBER 17 NANASE, SHE CAVED UNDER THE PRESSURE?
!

I CAN'T CATCH UP!
THE PASS IS COMPLETELY INACCURATE!
DAMN IT! MY LEGS ARE WORN FROM THE CHASE...
!!

I WON'T LET YOU!

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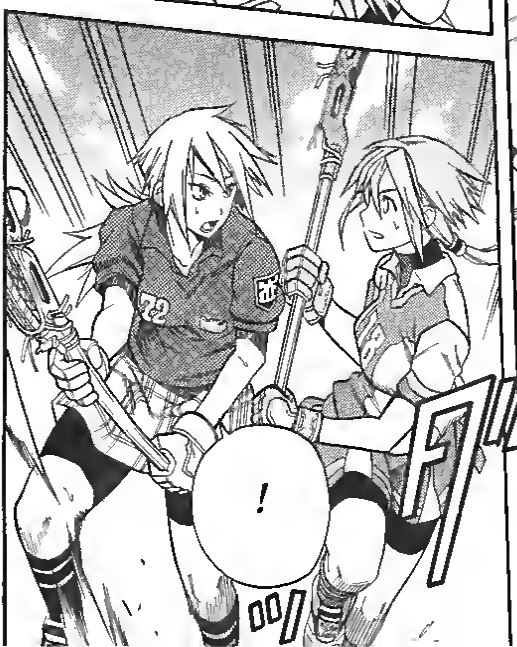

!

SORA!!

OONOJOU'S SETAKA SUPERBLY CLOSED THE GAP IN AN INSTANT AND CHECKED HER!

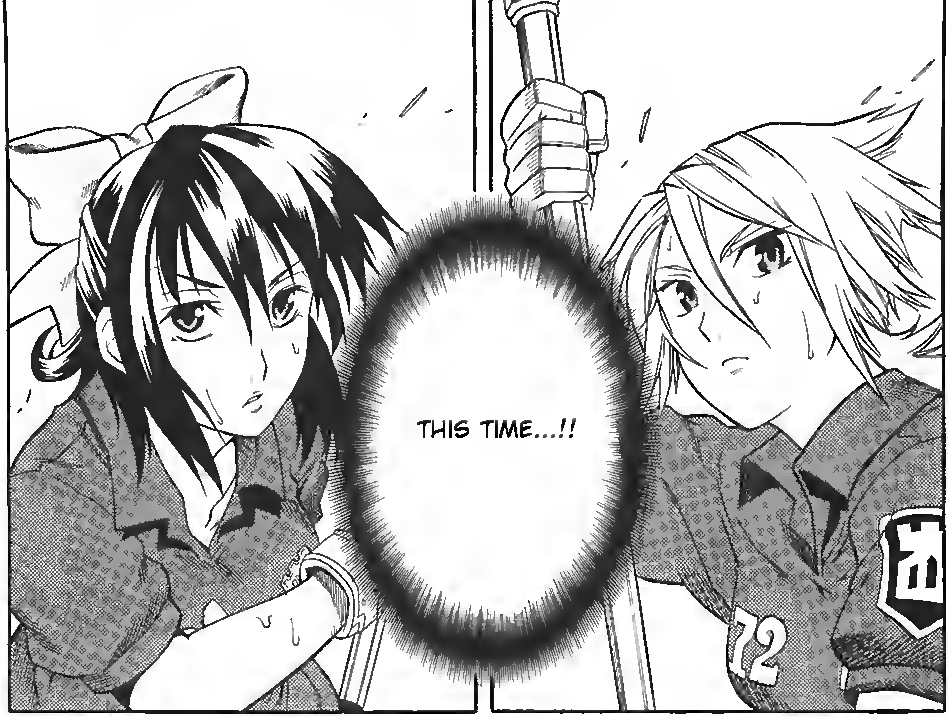
IS NOW CHASING FURIOUSLY TO RECLAIM THE BALL!
HOWEVER, CHIKUSHI'S NUMBER 18 UTSUGI, WHO HAS BEEN UNDER-PERFORMING
!?
...HIKIJI-SENPAI
THE TWO OF THEM ARE RUNNING IN PARA-LLEL...
BUT CHIKUSHI'S NUMBER 6 MIZUSHINO IS COMING TO MARK HER!
MAKE WAY, MAKE WAY!!
TWO OF THEM... CAN I DO IT!?

THE BALL GOES TO NUMBER 64 AMASE, AND THE LINE EXTENDS!
行け 行け!
OONOJOU NUMBER 53 ZENDOUJI LEAPT IN AND PROTECTED SETAKA, OPENING A LIVE ROAD FOR HER!
ざわ ざわ
ざわ
THEY WERE FIGHTING AMONG THEMSELVES JUST NOW...
THEY CAN MAKE IT THROUGH, RIGHT?
THIS IS A WONDERFUL CHAIN!
CHIKUSHI NUMBER 4 AMAAI COMES TO COVER..
BUT THIS TIME IT'S OONOJOU'S NUMBER 45 ERA!

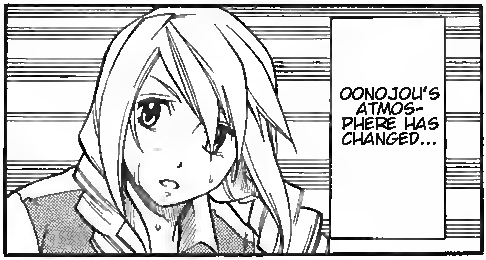
GALLANTLY MARCHING FORWARD, WHILE PROTECTING THEIR ALLIES' EXPOSED SIDE!
THE RIGHT HAND HOLDS THE SPEAR, THE LEFT HAND HOLDS THE SHIELD!
I SEE IT!
THE HIGHLY EFFECTIVE METHOD OF WAR THE ANCIENT GREEKS USED...
A CLUSTERED FORMATION OF HEAVILY ARMORED TROOPS
DEFENDING WHILE ATTACKING!
PHALANX!!
53

おお
OONOJOU'S LACROSSE HAS EVOLVED!
おお
Do your best
Don't give them any space
IS NOW IN A MAGNIFICENT PHALANX!
THE ONCE BROKEN GREAT WALL
はあ。
はあ。
AND STACKED TOGETHER TO FORM A GIANT WALL
THE STONES HAVE BEEN CARVED OUT
BY THEIR STRONG DESIRE TO WIN
THE TEAM HAS BEEN UNITED TOGETHER

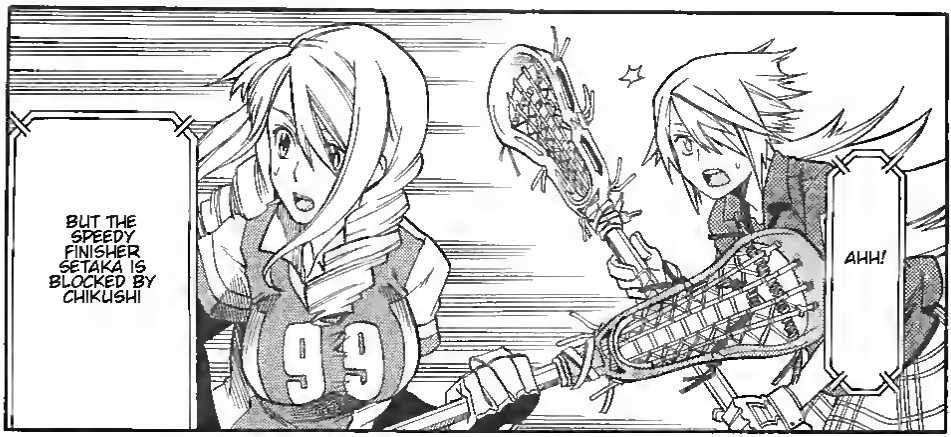
SE TA MII!
SE TA MII!
SE TA MII!
SE TA MII!
DO YOUR BEST SETAMI!
DO
DO
SE TA MII!
Do your best~
BECAUSE I
COULDN'T SEE FROM MII'S POINT
SE TA MII!
SE TA MII!
SE TA MII!
SE TA MII!
"FOR MII'S SAKE" THAT'S WHAT I BELIEVED, BUT PERHAPS I WASN'T DOING IT ONLY FOR MII
BUT!
MII AND THE MANAGER... NEVER GOT ALONG WITH THE REST OF THE TEAM

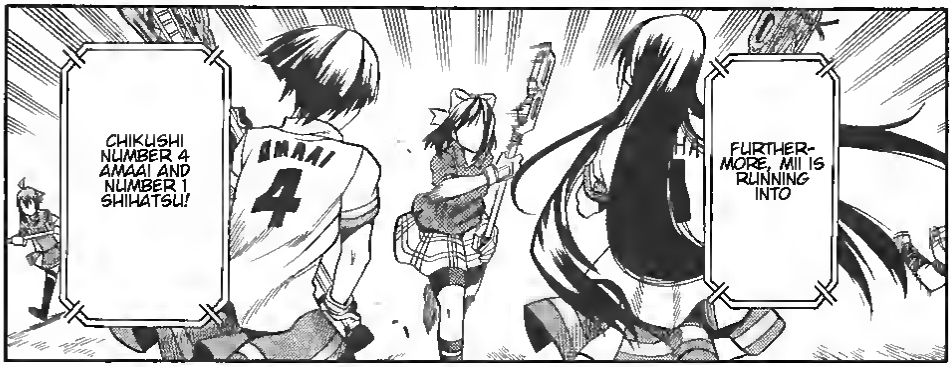

THIS TIME...!!

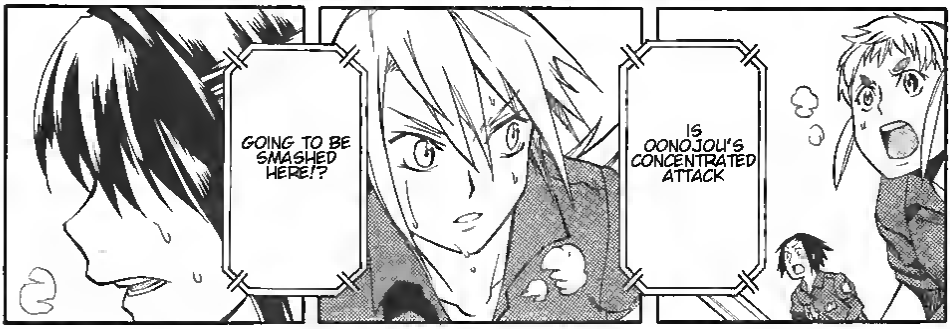
TOUKO!

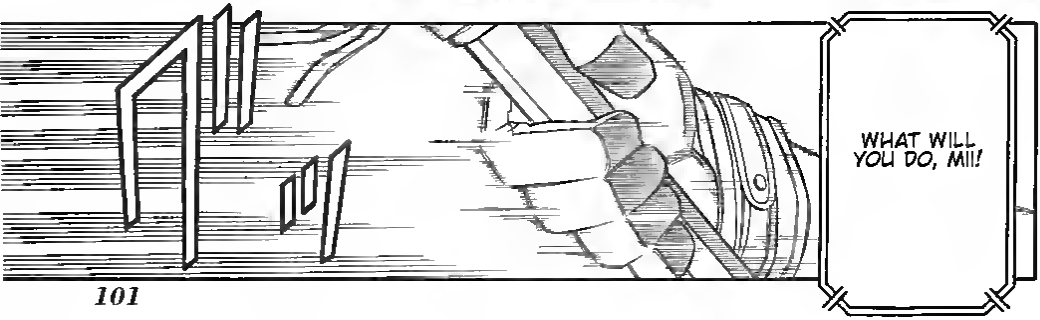

OONOJOU'S ATMOS-PHERE HAS CHANGED...

CHIKUSHI'S GOAL IS BEFORE HER!
MII BRINGS THE BALL FORWARD, SUPPORTED BY THE LOUDEST CHEERING SINCE THE WHOLE MATCH...


BUT THE SPEEDY FINISHER SETAKA IS BLOCKED BY CHIKUSHI
AHH!


CHIKUSHI NUMBER 4 AMAAI AND NUMBER 1 SHIHATSU!
FURTHER-MORE, MII IS RUNNING INTO

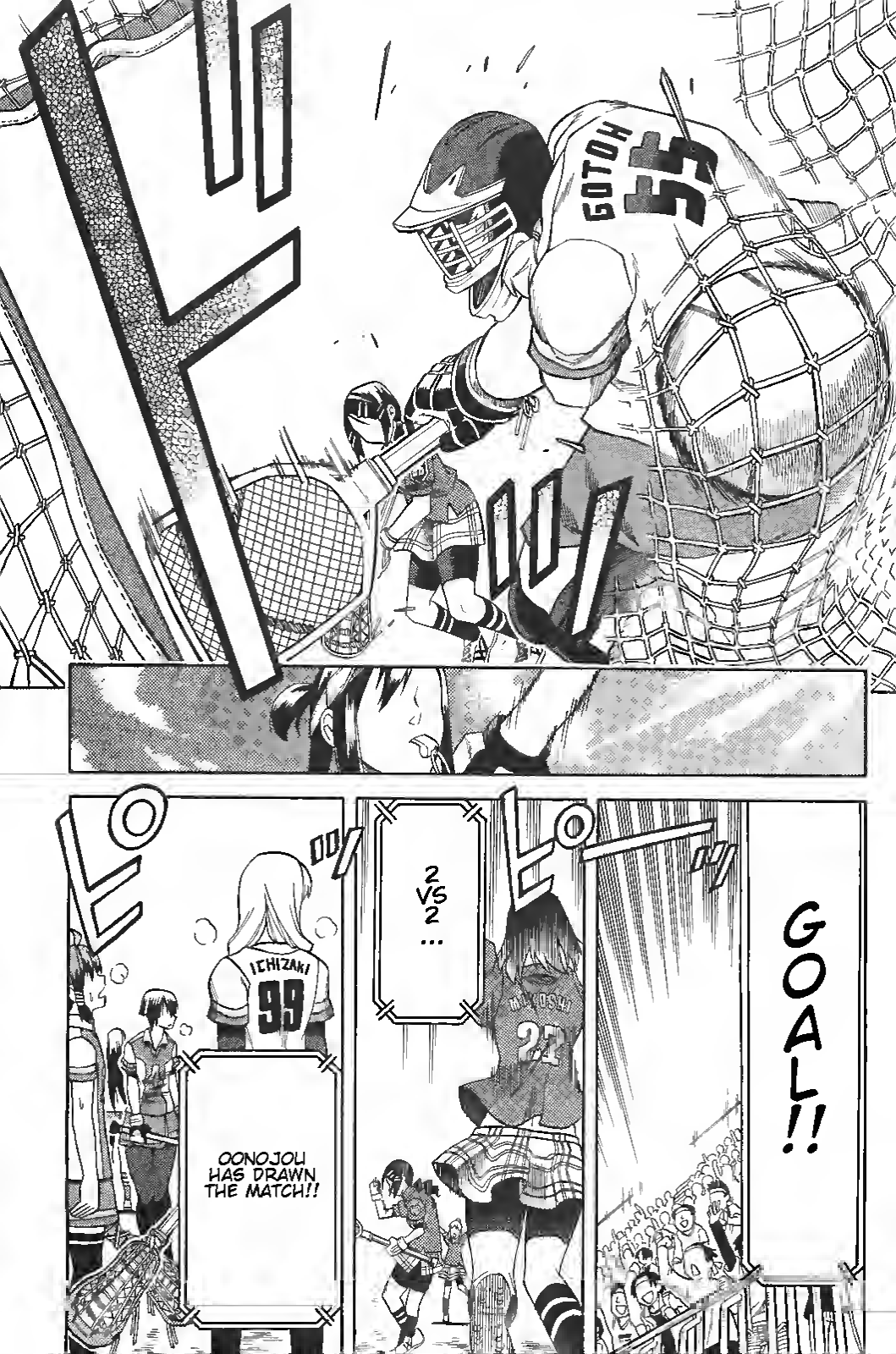

GOING TO BE SMASHED HERE!?
IS OONOJOU'S CONCENTRATED ATTACK

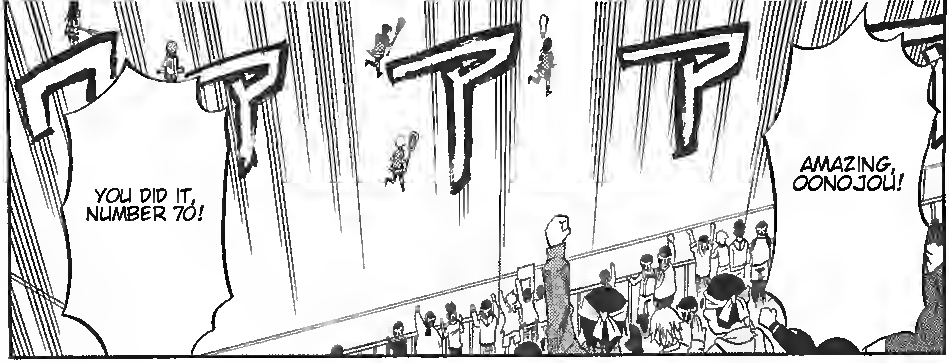

WHAT WILL YOU DO, MII!

70
AHH, THE LAST PASS GOES TO NUMBER 70 HIKIJI, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF SETAKA!?

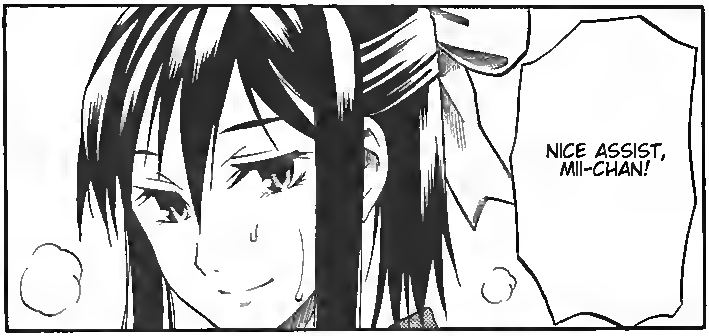
...HIKIJI-SENPAI
WITH THIS, CHIKUSHI IS COMPLETELY ON THE WRONG SIDE!!

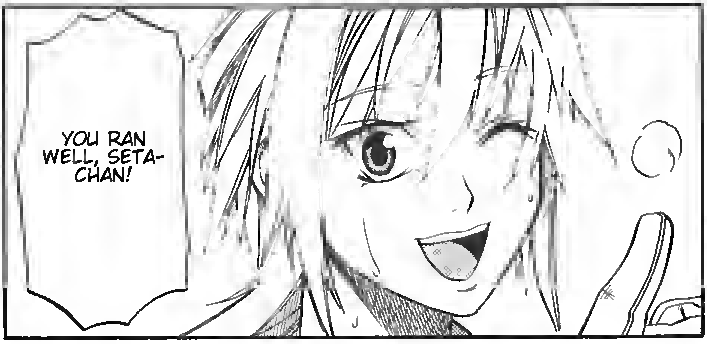
WHICH WIND CARRIED YOU HERE?
BECAUSE YOU MOVED UP TO THE SIDE OPPOSITE SETA-CHAN
THE LAST PASS WORKED
DOESN'T MATTER..
31
HIKIJI
20
IT'S ALL FOR THE TEAM'S VICTORY!


GOTOH
55
GOAL!!
2 VS 2 ...
ICHIZAKI
99
OONOJOU HAS DRAWN THE MATCH!!

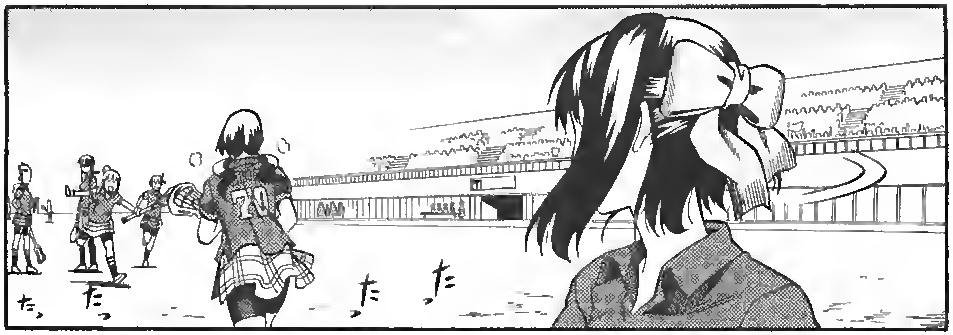

YOU DID IT, NUMBER 7!
AMAZING, OONOJOU!

SE TA MII!
SE TA MII!


NICE ASSIST, MII-CHAN!


YOU RAN WELL, SETA-CHAN!

THAT WAS A GOOD PASS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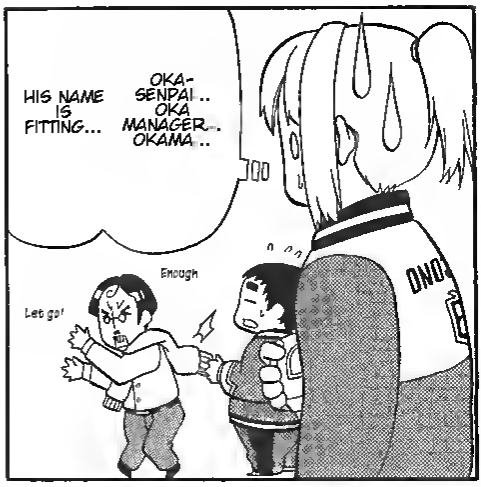
I THOUGHT...
...

IN DRAMAS ...
IT ONLY EXISTED

BECAUSE CHIKUSHI HAS EXHAUSTED ITSELF WITH ITS STRATEGY IN THE SECOND HALF
THIS POINT PAR-TICULARLY HURTS
THERE'S ONLY FIVE MINUTES LEFT!
AND CHIKUSHI IS FACING A NIGHTMARE, HAVING LOST A POINT...
IF THIS MATCH EXTENDS
はぁ
DAMN IT!
はぁ
CHIKUSHI HAS NO SUBSTITUTES
トゥン
CHIKUSHI WILL FACE DEFEAT!

BAGGATAWAY

BAGGATAWAY


HIS NAME IS FITTING...
OKA-SENPAI..
OKA MANAGER...
OKAMA..
Enough
Let go!